

THE DEAD PRESIDENT.

PREPARATIONS FOR HIS BURIAL.

GENES AT ELBERON—ROUTE OF THE FUNERAL—WASHINGTON TO CLEVELAND—EXAMINATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S BODY BY THE SURGEONS—CAUSE OF DEATH.

The President's body was prepared for burial at Elberon yesterday, and Attorney-General MacVeagh made all the arrangements for its transportation from Elberon to Washington and then to Cleveland, where it will be buried in Lake View Cemetery. The surgeons examined the body, and discovered that the President's strength had been depleted by internal hemorrhage, and that he was also suffering from an abscess and weak lungs. A letter of condolence with Mrs. Garfield was received from the Queen of England.

THE CAUSE OF DEATH.

RESULT OF THE EXAMINATION OF THE BODY BY THE SURGEONS—A GREAT INTERNAL HEMORRHAGE—A PINT OF BLOOD IN THE ABDOMINAL CAVITY—AN ABSCESS CAVITY—EVIDENCES OF SEVERE BRONCHITIS.

LONG BRANCH, N. J., Sept. 20.—The autopsy on the President's body lasted about three and a half hours. One of the gentlemen present makes the following statement in regard to it:

The ball was not found until the various parts of the abdomen were explored and cut asunder. The ball in its course broke the eleventh rib, fractured the spinal column, but did not touch the spinal cord. It lodged two and a half or three inches directly to the left of the spinal column in the mesentery. The channel which has hitherto been supposed to be the track of the ball proved to be a pus cavity formed by the burrowing of the pus downward.

The catheter used by the surgeons is believed by my informant to have bent upon itself, deceiving the surgeons in regard to the real depth of the wound. There was a large abscess between the liver and the gall duct, which according to the same authority was metastatic. This abscess was not connected with the track of the wound or the channel formed by burrowing. On each of the kidneys was a small abscess. The lungs, especially the right one, were badly diseased. A large amount of pus flowed freely from the bronchial tubes, while by cutting into the tubes a considerable amount of pus was discovered in little metastatic abscesses; there was purulent infiltration of both lungs. This pus was healthy. There were no abscesses in the liver itself, but those in the kidneys were metastatic or pyemic. There were adhesions of the lungs to the chest wall at the upper part of each lung, showing a previous pleurisy; whether it antedated the shooting the examination did not show. The intestines were very adherent one to another, showing the existence of former peritonitis. The abscess in the right kidney was not opened. The rigors from which the President has been suffering for a few days were probably caused by the abscesses between the liver and the gall duct.

The authority from which this information is gathered says that it proves the presence of pyemia. Dr. Bliss on the other hand says that while there were septic conditions there was no pyemia.

The following official bulletin was prepared at 11 o'clock to-night by the surgeons who have been in attendance upon the late President:

By previous arrangement a post-mortem examination of the body of President Garfield was made this afternoon in the presence and with the assistance of Drs. Hamilton, Agnew, Bliss, Barnes, Woodward, Reynolds, Andrew H. Smith, of Elberon, and Acting Assistant Surgeon D. S. Lamb, of the Army Medical Museum of Washington. The operation was performed by Dr. Lamb. It was found that the ball, after fracturing the right eleventh rib, had passed through the spinal column in front of the spinal cord, fracturing the body of the first lumbar vertebra, driven a number of small fragments of bone into the adjacent soft parts, and lodging below the pancreas, about two inches and a half to the left of the spine, and behind the peritoneum, where it had become completely encysted.

The immediate cause of death was secondary hemorrhage from one of the mesenteric arteries adjoining the track of the ball, the blood rupturing the peritoneum, and nearly a pint escaping into the abdominal cavity. This hemorrhage is believed to have been the cause of the severe pain in the lower part of the chest complained of just before death. An abscess cavity, six inches by four in dimensions, was found in the vicinity of the gall bladder, between the liver and the transverse colon, which were strongly adherent. It did not involve the substance of the liver, and no communication was found between it and the wound.

A long suppurating channel extended from the external wound, between the loin muscles and the right kidney, almost to the right groin. This channel, now known to be due to the burrowing of pus from the wound, was supposed during life to have been the track of the ball.

On an examination of the organs of the chest evidences of severe bronchitis were found on both sides, with broncho-pneumonia of the lower portions of the right lung, and, though to a much less extent, of the left. The lungs contained no abscesses, and the heart no clots. The liver was enlarged and fatty, but not from abscesses. Nor were any found in any other organ except the left kidney, which contained near its surface a small abscess about one-third of an inch in diameter.

In reviewing the history of the case in connection with the autopsy, it is quite evident that the different supporting surfaces, and especially the fractured, spongy tissue of the vertebrae, furnish a sufficient explanation of the septic condition which existed.

D. W. BLISS.

J. K. BARNES.

J. R. WOODWARD.

ROBERT REYNOLDS.

FRANK H. HAMILTON.

D. HAYES AGNEW.

ANDREW H. SMITH.

D. S. LAMB.

THE LAST HOUR OF HIS LIFE.

DESCRIPTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT'S DEATH—STATEMENTS BY GENERAL SWAIN AND DR. BOYNTON—THE GROUP ABOUT THE BEDSIDE—A EULOGY BY THE MEMBERS OF THE CABINET.

LONG BRANCH, Sept. 20.—Judge Advocate General Swain, who was with the President when he began sinking last night, gives a description of great interest of the President's last moments of life. To-day he said: "It was my night to watch the President. I had been with him a good deal of the time from 3 o'clock in the afternoon. A few minutes before 10 o'clock I left Colonel Rockwell in the lower hall and proceeded upstairs to the President's room. On entering I found Mrs. Garfield sitting by his bedside. There were no other persons in the room. I said to her, 'How is everything going?' She replied, 'He is sleeping nicely.' I then said, 'I think you had better go to bed and rest.' I asked her what had been prescribed for him to take during the night. She replied that she did not know; that she had given him milk punch at 8 o'clock. I then said, 'If you will wait a moment I will go into the Doctor's room and see what is to be given during the night.' She then said, 'There is beef tea down stairs. Daniel knows where to get it.' I then went into the Doctor's room. I found Dr. Bliss there, and asked him what was to be given during the night. He answered: 'I think I had better fix up a list, and will bring it to you pretty soon.' I then went back into the surgeon's room, and had some little conversation with Mrs. Garfield. She felt of the President's hand and laid her hand on his forehead, and said, 'He seems to be in a good condition,' and passed out of the room. I immediately felt his hands, feet and knees. I thought that his knees seemed a little cool and got a flannel cloth, heated it at the fire and laid it over his limbs. I also heated another cloth and laid it over his right hand, and then sat down in a chair beside his bed. I was hardly seated when Dr. Boynton came in and felt the President's pulse. I asked him how it seemed to him. He replied, 'It is not as strong as it was this afternoon, but very good.' I said, 'He seems to be doing well.' 'Yes,' he answered and passed out. He was not in the room more than two minutes.

"Shortly after this the President awoke. As he turned his head on awakening I arose and took hold of his hand. I was on the left hand side of the bed as he lay. I remarked, 'You have had a nice comfortable sleep.'"

"He then said, 'Oh, Swain, this terrible pain, placing his right hand on his breast, about over the region of the heart. I asked him if I could do anything for him. He said, 'Some water.' I went to the other side of the room and poured about an ounce and a half of Poland water into a glass and gave it to him to drink. He took it with his hand. I then handed the glass to the colored man Daniel, who came in during the time I was getting the water. Afterward I took a napkin and wiped his forehead, as he usually perspired on awakening. He then said, 'Oh, Swain, this terrible pain—press your hand on it.' I laid my hand on his chest. He then pressed both hands up to the side and again on a line with his head, and exclaimed, 'Oh, Swain, can't you stop this?' And again, 'Oh, Swain!'"

"I then saw him looking at me with a staring expression. I asked him if he was suffering much pain. Receiving no answer, I repeated the question with like result. I then concluded that he was either dying or was having a severe spasm and called to Daniel, who was at the door, to tell Dr. Bliss and Mrs. Garfield to come immediately and glance at the man who had been lying on the chaise longue for ten minutes past 10 o'clock. Dr. Bliss came within two or three minutes. I told Daniel to bring the light. A bright candle habitually kept behind a screen near the door. When the light shone full on the President's face I saw that he was dying. When Dr. Bliss came in a moment after I said, 'Doctor, have you any stimulants he seems to be dying.' He took hold of the President's wrist, as if feeling for his pulse, and said, 'Yes, he is dying.' I then said to Daniel: 'Run and arouse the house.' At that moment Colonel Rockwell came in, when Dr. Bliss said: 'Let us run his limbs,' which he did. In a very few moments Mrs. Garfield came in, and said: 'What does this mean?' and a moment after exclaimed: 'Oh, why am I made to suffer this cruel wrong?' At 10:30 p. m. the sacrifice was completed. He breathed his last calmly and peacefully.

"At the final moment the following persons were present: Mrs. Garfield and Miss Mollie Garfield, Drs. Bliss, Agnew and Boynton, General Swain, Colonel and Mrs. Rockwell, J. Stanley Brown, C. O. Rockwell and Daniel Spriggs."

Dr. Boynton gives the following full account of the death scene:

Just before 10 o'clock the cottage was closing. He went up to the President's room and upon feeling the President's pulse noticed it was weaker. Without awakening the President he called the attention of General Swain to the fact, and then, thinking a change was impending, he went over to the hotel to send some dispatch. He was almost immediately summoned. Upon going over in haste and entering the room he saw clearly that the President was dying. Most of the family had arrived in the room, all the surgeons were found in time except Dr. Hamilton. Scarcely a word was spoken by any one, as it was clear to all at a glance that the President was sinking. As those summoned came in they stood by their places about the bed. Colonel Rockwell took the head, General Swain first to the left, next Mrs. Garfield, who gently held her hand on the President's face and breast. Next stood Mr. W. Rockwell, Dr. Boynton stood to the right of the President's head, next Dr. Agnew, and next to him Dr. Bliss. Private Secretary Brown stood a little in the rear and to the left of Mrs. Garfield. "Dan," the colored man, was a little way from the foot of the bed. Miss Mollie Garfield was near the door.

All stood silently in these positions watching the dying man. Once or twice there were low whispers among the surgeons. Dr. Agnew held the pulse, and Dr. Boynton listened for the heart, but could hear no sound. The only treatment attempted was a hypodermic injection to allay pain. The President lay perfectly still after he first called for General Swain and told him of the pain over his heart. He simply gasped slowly and at intervals, and thus watched he passed quietly away in about twenty minutes. Not a muscle moved except in the gasping, and there was no quiver or expression to tell of pain. At death, the eyes rested half closed, as if in partial sleep. Mrs. Garfield was strongly affected, but said nothing, and did not break down. After death she left the room quietly, but returned in about half an hour and sat by the bed, scarcely speaking until about 2 o'clock. At that hour Dr. Boynton urged her to retire, which she did.

One present in the room at the time of the death says Mrs. Garfield bore herself with surprising fortitude. Her Christian courage did not forsake her for a moment. She remained a short time after the death was apparent to all, then withdrew quietly to her own room. Miss Mollie Garfield was overcome from the moment of the sudden summons to go to her father's bedside, and gave full vent to her grief in spite of every effort at self-control. To most there, as to all outside, the sudden and unforeseen news came more as a bewildering shock than as an event which could be measured or realized. Hours after men walked and talked of it as a matter scarcely tangible.

Secretary Windom, Secretary Kirkwood and Postmaster-General James had just returned to their rooms and retired. They spent the time after their arrival at the Franklin Cottage in discussing the preparations for the obsequies and kindred affairs, but took no formal action except in regard to telegraphing the Vice-President. Secretary Windom said that he had been trying to convince himself, and had almost succeeded, that there was still a chance for recovery, when he was suddenly requested by Mr. James to open his door and the startling announcement was made that the President was dead.

"I had been depressed all day," said Postmaster-General James, "and could not get rid of the idea that the end was near, yet I think it shocked us all more than it would have done had death resulted soon after the shooting."

"I was in bed," said Secretary Kirkwood, "and the summons came like a thunder clap out of the clear sky. I have had little hope of his recovery for several days, but this was a surprise."

"I believe he was ready for death," said Mr. James. "no man was better prepared."

"Yes," added Secretary Windom, "he was not afraid of it. He has discussed the matter during the last two or three days with his attendants, and his words have shown that he was considering the sad probability very calmly. Yes, he was ready on the very day he was shot, when he expected to die. He said to Mrs. Windom: 'That is all right, all right.'"

No words can describe the grief which the tone and subdued manner of the speakers betrayed. Hands were clasped at parting as if in this common sorrow they found some solace.

The suddenness with which the news of the death came can hardly be realized by one not at Elberon. The cottage was closed at 10 o'clock for the night. The two doorkeepers, Ricker and Atchison, had strolled down to the beach for a short walk before going to bed. Suddenly Ricker said to Atchison that the house was all lighted up. They both started up. Ricker called for the porter, Mr. Secretary Brown, who told them that the President was very low, and asked them to call the surgeons and the Attorney-General and other members of the Cabinet. Dr. Boynton was taken to the hotel, the office at the time. He hastily ran toward the cottage, and in a moment or two returned and announced that the President was rapidly sinking, and again he returned to the death chamber. The Attorney-General MacVeagh was in bed, but he was up and dressed in two or three minutes. A carriage was hastily dispatched for the other members of the Cabinet at the West End, but they did not arrive till some minutes after the sad event had occurred. The first news of the death of the President which reached the outside of the cottage was carried by Warren Young, one of the White House clerks. He carried in his hand some dispatches which had been intended to relatives of the President. He was asked by the first edition of the President and replied: "All is over."

THE DAY AFTER AT ELBERON.

SCENES ABOUT THE FRANKLIN COTTAGE—MRS. GARFIELD'S FORTITUDE—PRESENCE OF PRESIDENT ARTHUR'S FRIENDS—ARRIVAL OF ONE OF GENERAL GARFIELD'S SONS.

ELBERON, Sept. 20.—The sun's face wore a deep coppery tint as he looked up over the waters this morning and threw his earliest rays upon the closed shutters of the cottage of death. The wind, which for a week had been coming from seaward and at times blew a gale, came now from the west and was hushed to a gentle zephyr. The billows which for days had lashed the sands in anger now murmured softly of that eternity which they were the fitter symbol of. The sky was cloudless, but a mellow haze hung over the ocean obliterating the horizon line and blending sea and sky in one. A single craft miles distant, floating as it seemed upon nothing, like a soul just parted from time, was making its slow way with all sails set to catch the breeze toward the north.

At the cottage the quiet of death prevailed. At a little distance on all sides, armed sentinels with fixed bayonets paced their beats in silence, guardians as it seemed of that border line between now and hereafter, beyond which the living might never pass. The flag, which since the arrival of the President at Elberon has been floating from a pole thrust out of an upper window of the cottage, was draped with black, but beyond this no outward sign of mourning was apparent. The first comers were the journalists, but in their demeanor the customary eagerness of competition was not apparent. Fifty million people would tonight be waiting for the truth they had come to gather, but their subject of inquiry was death and mourning, and decorous propriety befitting the occasion was always to be respected.

By halfpast 7 a dozen people had gathered in groups upon the porch of the hotel. Doctors Bliss, Hamilton and Agnew were in consultation at that portion of the hotel nearest the cottage where lay the remains of the man who had been for eleven weeks the object of their solicitude and skill. They talked of the events of the night just past, and of the nights and days which had preceded it. They talked of the coming autopsy and agreed that it should be postponed until the arrival in the afternoon of their Washington associates in the medical council.

Dr. Bliss said in regard to the immediate cause of the President's death, that he believed it resulted from the coagulation of blood, which the heart in its enfeebled condition was unable to force off. "General Swain," he said, "had evidently not at first fully appreciated the imminence of the crisis, but had called Dr. Bliss immediately. 'I stepped in at once,' said the Doctor, 'and as a ray of light fell across the invalid's face I said, 'My God, he is dying. Send for Mrs. Garfield.' It was virtually a painless death. He suffered at first, but unconsciousness came and with that his sufferings were at an end.'"

At half past 10 Secretaries Windom, Kirkwood and Hunt and Postmaster-General James arrived at Elberon and were invited at once to the Attorney-General's cottage, situated about as far to the northeast of the hotel as the Franklin cottage, in which the dead President lay to the southeast. There they remained during the forenoon discussing the details of the events which had just transpired, in which they were all so deeply interested. A half hour later General Grant with his son and a friend drove up and the ex-President spent an hour in gathering information of the last hours of President Garfield.

During the forenoon several hundred people assembled upon the porch of Elberon. They were for the most part people who had objects in coming to see the place where the dead President lay. It was an orderly, quiet, well-dressed and well-behaved throng. The day of the funeral, which was to take place in the afternoon, was during the forenoon several hundred people assembled upon the porch of Elberon. They were for the most part people who had objects in coming to see the place where the dead President lay. It was an orderly, quiet, well-dressed and well-behaved throng. The day of the funeral, which was to take place in the afternoon, was during the forenoon several hundred people assembled upon the porch of Elberon. They were for the most part people who had objects in coming to see the place where the dead President lay. It was an orderly, quiet, well-dressed and well-behaved throng. 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